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Copy 5 of 5

28 March 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR : Chief, Security Branch, Office of Special Activities
SUBJECT : DISCOVERER Publicity

1. The attached clipping is from the March 18, 1963 issue of AVIATION WEEK. I was interested in it because it was, I think, extremely accurate and detailed reporting on what went wrong with the first TAT launching on Mission 9052.

2. I would suggest that you might call this to the attention of [] who is in charge of the publicity/security side of the house on CORONA and indicate to him that it seems to us that this release is a good bit more detailed than had been anticipated as a result of recent cable traffic on the subject of how much would be said during missile failures involving covert reconnaissance programs. You will note that the first sentence links the TAT to the DISCOVERER payload. You might feel motivated to ask [] for his comments on the release. Let me know what comes of this.

JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Deputy Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

Attachment

Distribution:

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